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Programme planning

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2006-2007

Part two: biennial programme plan

Programme 15
Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific

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* A/59/50 and Corr.1.

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Overall orientation

15.1 Within the United Nations, the mandate of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) is to promote economic and social development in the Asian and Pacific region by fostering cooperation between its members and associate members. The mandate for the programme derives from Economic and Social Council resolutions 37 (IV) of 28 March 1947 and 414 (XIII) of 18, 19 and 20 September 1951, by which the Commission was established.

15.2 The mandate was further elaborated in General Assembly resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977, on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system, in which ESCAP was designated to serve as the main general economic and social development centre within the United Nations system for Asia and the Pacific and as an executing agency for intersectoral, subregional, regional and interregional projects. The internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and international agreements since 1992, provide the overarching mandates for the United Nations and its specialized agencies, including ESCAP.

15.3 Over 800 million of the world's 1.2 billion poor people live in the Asian and Pacific region. Over 500 million of them are suffering from hunger and disease. The poor lack productive income, employment and assets and have insufficient access to food, basic services, infrastructure, information and decision-making opportunities, and this constitutes a threat to human security.

15.4 Equitable access is essential for poverty reduction. The poor need access to health services, clean water, adequate sanitation, energy, shelter, education and training. They also need access to markets, transport infrastructure, credit, capital and information technology to increase their productivity and income. Furthermore, access to meaningful decision-making processes provides the poor with avenues through which to voice their concerns. All of these are central to expanding the range of choices that the poor can have to improve their income and quality of life.

15.5 Globalization has contributed to the expansion of opportunities for the poor and societies at large. However, this process is not automatic, as globalization can actually widen income disparities. Countries thus need to develop the capacity to manage globalization, with the aim of maximizing its benefits and minimizing its costs.

15.6 Hence, the overall objective of ESCAP for the strategic framework for 2006-2007 will be to promote equitable access to opportunities for individuals, communities and economies, leading to the economic and social advancement of the region.

15.7 ESCAP will pursue that objective by focusing on three thematic priorities:

(a) Poverty reduction;

(b) Managing globalization;

(c) Addressing emerging social issues.

15.8 In terms of results, ESCAP will contribute to countries' efforts to build national capacity, at the request of members and associate members, in:

(a) Developing and implementing economic and social development policies and programmes, including regulatory, legal and institutional frameworks;

(b) Negotiating effectively in multilateral and regional forums;

(c) Building effective partnerships with all sectors of civil society, including the private sector;

(d) Implementing commitments from global and regional conferences and reviewing progress in achieving the internationally agreed goals and targets adopted at global and regional conferences. Interventions will include policy advocacy and dialogue, knowledge-sharing, training and other advisory services. The work programmes of the regional institutions will be aligned and closely coordinated with those endeavours.

15.9 As a matter of priority, gender dimensions and the rights-based approach will be mainstreamed across subprogrammes. Particular attention will be given to promoting, in diverse development sectors, the rights of vulnerable groups, including women, youth, people with disabilities, older persons and people living with HIV/AIDS, especially among the poor.

15.10 To ensure system-wide coherence and avoid duplication, ESCAP will undertake work in close cooperation and coordination with other United Nations bodies and specialized agencies. As an active member of the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs, ESCAP will devote attention to ensuring clarity in the roles and responsibilities of global and regional bodies with regard to follow-up to the outcomes of major global conferences. ESCAP will continue to collaborate with regional, subregional and national organizations, and, at the request of members and associate members, with civil society institutions and the private sector.

Subprogramme 1
Poverty and development

Objective of the Organization: To achieve internationally agreed goals and targets relating to poverty reduction and social and economic development.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) National policy makers and planners have increased capacity to design and implement poverty reduction policies that are effective, sustainable and gender-responsive	(a) An increase in the number of measures taken by policy makers and planners to ensure that poverty reduction policies are more effective, sustainable and gender-responsive
(b) Increased capacity of Governments, civil society and the private sector in Asia and the Pacific, and particularly the least developed countries, to formulate and implement poverty reduction programmes that are effective, sustainable and gender-responsive and that focus on economically vulnerable groups	(b) An increase in the number of measures taken at the national level to formulate and implement poverty reduction programmes that are effective, sustainable and gender-responsive
(c) Increased involvement of civil society organizations in the work of ESCAP	(c) An increase in the number of civil society organizations participating in the activities of ESCAP

Strategy

15.11 The substantive responsibility for this subprogramme lies with the Poverty and Development Division. The subprogramme's strategic direction derives from the internationally agreed development goals, including those on poverty reduction contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and international agreements since 1992, in line with the overall mandate of ESCAP and major global mandates such as the Monterrey Consensus. The subprogramme will achieve its objective through a combination of analytical and normative activities and capacity development involving the public and private sectors, at the request of members and associate members. Those activities include ongoing research on, and monitoring of, regional development trends, identifying and promoting good practices to reduce poverty and deprivation, promoting good governance and the involvement of civil society, providing policy-oriented publications, undertaking pilot projects and establishing regional resource facilities to disseminate lessons learned, and organizing regional and subregional forums. The activities of the Regional Coordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific will be supportive of the subprogramme activities.

Subprogramme 2
Statistics

Objective of the Organization: To improve the capacity of national statistical systems for monitoring progress towards achieving internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration and in the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and international agreements since 1992.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Increased national capacity in Asia and the Pacific, and particularly the least developed countries, to provide data required for measuring progress towards achieving internationally agreed development goals	(a) An increase in the number of national statistical offices that are able to provide data for measuring progress towards achieving internationally agreed development goals
(b) Increased access for all stakeholders in society to statistical data in Asia and the Pacific that accord with internationally recognized statistical standards and reflect gender concerns, especially data required for measuring progress towards achieving internationally agreed development goals	(b) An increase in the number of freely accessible publications and web sites containing statistical data on the ESCAP membership that conform to internationally recognized statistical standards and principles, reflect gender concerns and indicate progress towards achieving internationally agreed development goals

Strategy

15.12 The substantive responsibility for this subprogramme lies with the Statistics Division. The subprogramme will contribute to improving the capacity of national statistical systems, at the request of members and associate members, particularly in priority areas determined by the ESCAP membership for the purpose of measuring

progress towards the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and in the outcomes of the major international conferences and international agreements since 1992. It will also promote the generation, free accessibility and wider use of data on the ESCAP membership that accord with internationally accepted statistical standards and principles.

15.13 The subprogramme will achieve its objective through a combination of normative and operational activities. A variety of modalities, including forums, seminars, workshops and training courses at the regional, subregional and national levels, will be employed to build national capacities to produce and utilize data. Emphasis will be placed on the development of harmonized methodologies and approaches for inter-country comparison of poverty-related phenomena. The collection and dissemination of statistical data and information on the ESCAP membership will continue, focusing on comparable data relating to internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and international agreements since 1992. The activities of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific will be supportive of the subprogramme activities.

15.14 The subprogramme will work closely with members of the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities, especially the Statistics Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the secretariat of the Association of South-East Asian Nations, the Economic Cooperation Organization, the Secretariat of the Pacific Community and other relevant organizations, to ensure coherence, synergies and a clear division of work at the global, regional and national levels.

Subprogramme 3
Development of Pacific island countries and territories

Objective of the Organization: To build policy and management capacity in Pacific island developing countries and territories.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Increased capacity of national Governments in Pacific island developing countries and territories to monitor and achieve progress in achieving internationally agreed development goals	(a) An increase in the number of effective measures taken by Pacific island developing countries and territories to monitor and achieve relevant elements of the internationally agreed development goals
(b) Increased capacity of Governments, civil society and the private sector in Pacific island developing countries and territories to formulate and implement effective gender-responsive poverty reduction programmes that focus on promoting sustainable access to services for socially vulnerable groups	(b) An increase in the number of gender-responsive poverty reduction programmes formulated and implemented in Pacific island developing countries and territories

Strategy

15.15 The substantive responsibility for this subprogramme lies with the ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre. The subprogramme's strategic direction derives from the internationally agreed development goals on poverty reduction and social development, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and international agreements since 1992, in line with the overall mandate of ESCAP. The Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010 and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States also provide strategic direction.

15.16 The subprogramme will accomplish its objective through the design and implementation of policies that focus on poverty reduction, managing the impact of globalization and addressing emerging social issues; and public and private sector capacity-development activities, at the request of members and associate members, including the identification and promotion of good practices to reduce poverty, the exchange of information and the organization of training and thematic workshops.

Subprogramme 4
Trade and investment

Objective of the Organization: To benefit more fully from the globalization process through increased global and regional trade and investment flows.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Increased national capacities to negotiate, conclude and implement multilateral and regional trade and investment agreements designed to promote inter- and intra-subregional trade and investment flows	(a) (i) An increase in the number of ESCAP member countries making progress towards becoming members of regional and multilateral trade and investment agreements and mechanisms (e.g., the Bangkok Agreement and the World Trade Organization) (ii) Percentage of officials who indicate that they are better able to negotiate, conclude and implement trade and investment agreements
(b) Increased national capacities to develop and implement trade and investment policies and programmes designed to enhance supply-side capacities and international competitiveness of exports	(b) An increase in the number of measures/mechanisms established for the development of policies and programmes in trade and investment

Strategy

15.17 The substantive responsibility for this subprogramme lies with the Trade and Investment Division. The subprogramme will comprise closely integrated sectoral projects and interdisciplinary activities implemented jointly with other divisions

within the ESCAP thematic areas of managing globalization, poverty reduction and addressing emerging social issues.

15.18 The strategic direction of the subprogramme will be governed by major global mandates as contained in the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and international agreements since 1992. Relevant resolutions and decisions of the Commission, the Committee on Managing Globalization and the Subcommittee on International Trade and Investment will provide further guidance.

15.19 The strategic focus will be on capacity development, at the request of members and associate members, undertaken through a combination of research, policy analysis and operational activities, in trade and investment policy and facilitation, and enterprise development, particularly for small and medium-sized enterprises, on the basis of a multisectoral approach, identifying concrete technical assistance activities that can enhance synergies between trade and investment and related national development issues such as environment, transport and bridging the digital divide.

15.20 The activities of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery will be coordinated with and supportive of this strategic framework.

Subprogramme 5
Transport and tourism

Objective of the Organization: To improve the movement of goods and people and to strengthen the role of tourism in economic and social development.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Strengthened national capacities to formulate policies on, and to implement initiatives for, improving logistics efficiency and enhancing participation in regional and subregional agreements relating to transport and tourism infrastructure and facilitation	(a) (i) An increase in the number of national policy decisions and position papers that reflect ESCAP-promoted programmes (ii) An increase in the number of countries and organizations using ESCAP methodology to measure reductions in the time and cost of transport, in particular to landlocked countries and through transit countries (iii) An increase in the number of countries participating in regional and subregional agreements
(b) Increased national capacities to develop and implement policies and programmes to promote transport and tourism as an entry point for poverty reduction	(b) An increase in the number of national officials taking measures to develop and implement policy papers and programmes in the transport and tourism sectors that reflect ESCAP-promoted programmes and initiatives to reduce poverty

Strategy

15.21 The substantive responsibility for this subprogramme lies with the Transport and Tourism Division. It will comprise closely integrated sectoral projects and interdisciplinary activities implemented jointly with other divisions within the ESCAP thematic areas of managing globalization, poverty reduction and emerging social issues.

15.22 The subprogramme will strengthen national capacities, at the request of members and associate members, so as to provide them with opportunities to benefit more fully from the globalization process and the alleviation of poverty, in accordance with global mandates and regional priorities relating to the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and international agreements since 1992, as well as those defined in the Seoul Declaration on Infrastructure Development in Asia and the Pacific, the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and ESCAP directives and resolutions.

15.23 The subprogramme will be implemented by employing the following strategic modalities:

(a) Convening of regional forums or conferences that promote policy dialogues and facilitate a networking approach to regional development of the transport and tourism sectors;

(b) Regular monitoring and analysis of and reporting on transport and tourism issues, with a special focus on the needs of least developed, landlocked developing and small island developing States and economies in transition;

(c) Formulation of strategies and proposals designed to address issues of regional concern for consideration by ESCAP members;

(d) Preparation, in collaboration with ESCAP members, of regional and subregional agreements that facilitate the movement of goods and people;

(e) Promotion of wider participation of all stakeholders in the decision-making process and in public/private partnerships in the implementation of policies and decisions related to sustainable development.

Subprogramme 6
Environment and sustainable development

Objective of the Organization: To facilitate the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development, namely, economic development, social development and environmental protection.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Increased national capacities to develop and implement effective, gender-responsive policies and programmes in partnerships with civil society and the private sector for enhancing the integration of environmental protection, energy resources management and water resources management	(a) An increase in the number of measures taken to promote sustainable, gender-responsive national policies and programmes in environmental protection, energy resources management and water resources management
(b) Increased national capacities for transboundary cooperation and for monitoring progress at the national level in achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and international agreements since 1992	(b) (i) An increase in the number of measures taken to strengthen transboundary collaboration on sustainable development (ii) An increase in the number of measures taken at the national level to improve sustainable development monitoring mechanisms

Strategy

15.24 The substantive responsibility for this subprogramme lies with the Environment and Sustainable Development Division. It will comprise closely integrated sectoral projects and interdisciplinary activities implemented jointly with other divisions within the thematic areas of managing globalization, reducing poverty and addressing emerging social issues.

15.25 The subprogramme will be implemented by:

(a) Using innovative and pragmatic approaches to public and private sector capacity-development activities, at the request of members and associate members, for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and international agreements since 1992 and the implementation of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, with some salient features of the Phnom Penh regional platform duly reflected in those approaches;

(b) Playing a proactive role in promoting policy dialogues to facilitate the integration of economic, social and environmental considerations into overall development plans and programmes, as well as into those of specific sectors, such as energy and water resources;

(c) Undertaking regular monitoring of and reporting on regional environmental trends and the implementation of global environmental agreements;

(d) Promoting wider participation of all stakeholders in regional and national decision-making processes relating to sustainable development;

(e) Supporting regional and subregional cooperation in energy and water resources management and environmental protection.

Subprogramme 7
Information, communication and space technology

Objective of the Organization: To improve access to, and the development, transfer and application of, information, communication and space technology in order to maximize the benefits of globalization.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Increased national capacities to develop and implement policies and programmes, including regulatory and institutional frameworks, that facilitate equitable access to information, communication and space technology for development	(a) An increase in the number of measures taken to improve regulatory frameworks
(b) Enhanced national capacities to apply information, communication and space technology in planning and implementing socio-economic development programmes, including for the promotion of gender equality	(b) An increase in the number of measures taken at the national level to apply information, communication and space technology in the development of national socio-economic development programmes

Strategy

15.26 The substantive responsibility for this subprogramme lies with the Information, Communication and Space Technology Division, which will cooperate closely with other divisions under the theme of managing globalization. The subprogramme's strategic direction derives from the Millennium Declaration, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the World Summit on the Information Society, the Tokyo Declaration of the Asia-Pacific Regional Conference on the World Summit on the Information Society and the Delhi Declaration on Space Technology Applications in Asia and the Pacific for Improved Quality of Life in the New Millennium.

15.27 The subprogramme will be implemented, particularly in the least developed countries and small island developing countries, by employing the following strategic modalities: the organization of intergovernmental and expert group meetings; the undertaking of research and studies; the development of knowledge management tools and knowledge networks among individuals and institutions working in the field to exchange or share information and knowledge; the implementation of operational activities, including training and pilot projects; and the provision of advisory services to assist members, at their request, in expanding access to information, communication and space technology to support national development. The activities of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology will contribute to this subprogramme.

Subprogramme 8
Social development, including persistent and emerging issues

Objective of the Organization: To improve access for socially vulnerable groups to basic services (including health care), income and productive assets, the physical environment and decision-making.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Increased national capacity to promote accessibility of services for socially vulnerable groups, taking due account of gender dimensions and the rights-based approach for persons with disabilities	(a) An increase in the number of measures taken by countries to formulate or strengthen policies promoting access to services
(b) Increased national capacity to monitor progress in achieving the internationally agreed development goals contained in the Millennium Declaration and the outcomes of major United Nations conferences pertaining to poverty reduction, gender equality, health and socially vulnerable groups	(b) An increase in the number of measures taken by countries to strengthen monitoring mechanisms aimed at measuring progress in achieving relevant elements of internationally agreed development goals

Strategy

15.28 The subprogramme's strategic direction derives from the internationally agreed development goals, including those on poverty eradication, gender equality and empowerment of women, and combating HIV/AIDS, as well as on issues relating to youth, older persons and population and development, contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and international agreements since 1992. The Second Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003-2012, also provides strategic direction for regional activities towards the achievement of an inclusive, barrier-free and rights-based society for persons with disabilities.

15.29 The subprogramme will accomplish its objectives through the convening of regional meetings and training workshops; the identification, analysis, dissemination and customization of good practices; the promotion of partnerships, including with non-governmental organizations and civil society; the compilation, review and dissemination of information; technical assistance, at the request of members and associate members; and limited inter-country research.

Legislative mandates

General Assembly resolutions

54/100 Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization (subprogrammes 4, 5 and 6)

55/2 United Nations Millennium Declaration (all subprogrammes)

55/191 Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy (subprogrammes 1 and 4)

56/180 Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries (subprogrammes 4 and 5)

57/144 Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit (all subprogrammes)

57/253 World Summit on Sustainable Development (subprogrammes 1 and 6)

57/262 Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (subprogrammes 3 and 5)

57/270 A and B Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields (subprogrammes 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8)

57/274 Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence (subprogrammes 1, 4 and 7)

58/172 The right to development (subprogrammes 1 and 8)

58/228 Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (subprogrammes 1 and 5)

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2000/5 Decade of Greater Mekong Subregion Development Cooperation, 2000-2009 (subprogrammes 1, 4, and 5)

2001/37 Global Code of Ethics for Tourism (subprogrammes 5 and 6)

2002/2 Restructuring the conference structure of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (subprogrammes 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8)

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolutions

56/1 Decade of Greater Mekong Subregion Development Cooperation, 2000-2009 (subprogrammes 1, 4 and 5)

56/4 Promotion of a sustainable energy future for small island States (subprogrammes 3 and 6)

57/4 Regional cooperation in information and communication technologies for development (subprogrammes 1, 4 and 7)

59/4 Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010 (subprogrammes 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8)

Subprogramme 1
Poverty and development

General Assembly resolutions

56/181 Towards a strengthened and stable international financial architecture responsive to the priorities of growth and development, especially in developing countries, and to the promotion of economic and social equity

56/202 Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

56/227 Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

57/240 Enhancing international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problems of developing countries

57/241 International financial system and development

57/275 Special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and the strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolutions

55/2 Economic and financial monitoring and surveillance in the ESCAP region

58/2 Poverty reduction for sustainable development

58/3 World Summit on Sustainable Development

Subprogramme 2
Statistics

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolutions

246 (XLII) Statistical services in Asia and the Pacific

Subprogramme 3
Development of Pacific island countries and territories

General Assembly resolutions

57/37 Cooperation between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolutions

237 (XL) The Commission's activities in the Pacific

Subprogramme 4
Trade and investment

General Assembly resolutions

58/129 Towards global partnerships

58/197 International trade and development

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolutions

57/5 Integration of Asian and Pacific developing countries and economies in transition into the international trading system

Subprogramme 5
Transport and tourism

General Assembly resolutions

55/181 Transit environment in the landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours

55/279 Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010

58/201 Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolutions

48/11 Road and rail transport modes in relation to facilitation measures

52/9 Intra-Asia and Asia-Europe land bridges

55/1 Sustainable development of inland water transport in the Asian and Pacific region

Subprogramme 6
Environment and sustainable development

General Assembly resolutions

58/213 Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

58/217 International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015

58/218 Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2001/21 Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolutions

57/6 Implementation of the Sustainable Energy Development Action Programme, Strategies and Implementation Modalities for the Asian and Pacific Region, 2001-2005 in support of the Bali Declaration on Asia-Pacific Perspectives on Energy and Sustainable Development

Subprogramme 7
Information, communication and space technology

General Assembly resolutions

57/116 International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space

57/295 Information and communication technologies for development

58/199 Creation of a global culture of cybersecurity and the protection of critical information infrastructures

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2000/6 Regional cooperation on space applications for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolutions

56/3 Regional cooperation on space applications for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific

Subprogramme 8
Social development, including persistent and emerging issues

General Assembly resolutions

56/115 Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons: towards a society for all in the twenty-first century

56/117 Policies and programmes involving youth

57/167 Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing

57/176 Trafficking in women and girls

57/177 Situation of older women in society

57/182 Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly

58/130 Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

58/132 Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons: towards a society for all in the twenty-first century

58/134 Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing

58/137 Strengthening international cooperation in preventing and combating trafficking in persons and protecting victims of such trafficking

58/147 Elimination of domestic violence against women

58/179 Access to medication in the context of pandemics such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria

58/206 Women in development

58/236 Follow-up to the outcome of the twenty-sixth special session: implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2001/23 Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)

2002/7 Comprehensive and integral international convention to promote and protect the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities

2002/23 Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

2002/26 Further promotion of equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities and protection of their human rights

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolutions

55/4 Towards a society for all ages: Macau Declaration and Plan of Action on Ageing for Asia and the Pacific

56/2 Advancing human resources development in Asia and the Pacific

57/1 Regional call for action to fight the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome in Asia and the Pacific

57/3 Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly

58/4 Promoting an inclusive, barrier-free and rights-based society for people with disabilities in the Asian and Pacific region in the twenty-first century

59/1 Regional action in follow-up to the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS

59/2 Strengthening social safety in the Asian and Pacific region

59/3 Regional implementation of the Biwako Millennium Framework for Action towards an Inclusive, Barrier-free and Rights-based Society for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific during the Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003-2012

59/4 Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010

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Programme planning

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Programme 16
Economic development in Europe

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Overall orientation[1]

16.1 The programme is under the responsibility of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE).

16.2 The Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 36 (IV) of 28 March 1947, established the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and assigned to it responsibilities for coordination and promotion of international economic cooperation in Europe. Further direction to the programme is provided by the Declaration on the Strengthening of Economic Cooperation in Europe and its annexed Plan of Action, both endorsed by the Council in its decision 1997/224. Taking into account the role of the regional commissions, as set forth in Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/46 of 31 July 1998, and the goals and commitments contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development, the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing 2002, adopted at the Second World Assembly on Ageing and the related Regional Implementation Strategy Adopted in Berlin, the main objectives of the ECE work programme for the biennium 2006-2007 will be: (a) to promote the economic integration of ECE countries in the context of the post-enlargement European Union and taking into account the various stages of development of countries of the region with economies in transition (acceding countries, emerging market economies and less advanced transition economies); (b) to foster sustainable development in the countries of the region, with a focus on promoting the conditions for sustained growth and trade and improving the environment; and (c) to contribute to the economic and environmental dimensions of security in Europe.

16.3 The overall ECE programme of work is designed around nine interdependent and complementary subprogrammes, namely: Environment, Transport, Statistics, Economic analysis, Sustainable energy, Trade development, Timber, Human settlements and Industrial restructuring and enterprise development. The core strategy involves the negotiation and implementation of conventions, norms, standards and guidelines; the promotion of dialogue in economic cooperation and development and the exchange of information and experience in the key areas of ECE work; the development of policy analysis, studies and supporting statistics; and the provision of technical assistance.

16.4 ECE will bring about a further achievement of economic integration in the region as a whole and, in particular, closer cooperation between countries of the enlarged European Union and non-acceding countries through its work in the further development and maintenance of norms and standards, with an emphasis on their implementation. The work in this area will also have a positive impact on the rest of the world as more of the ECE-developed agreements and standards, in particular in the areas of transport, trade facilitation, statistics, energy and environmental protection, are expected to become accepted for use in non-ECE countries.

16.5 ECE will also contribute to reducing disparities and preventing the emergence of new dividing lines in Europe by promoting greater regulatory compatibility among ECE Member States. Through policy discussions, the exchange of experiences and projects, in particular for improving trade and investment flows,

transport infrastructure and energy networks, the integration between the enlarged European Union and other countries will be fostered.

16.6 The ECE's work in the area of policy analysis will be covering the core United Nations development-related themes addressed in the Millennium Declaration and the outcomes of recent United Nations summits and major forums, reflecting the progress made in the region in the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals of the United Nations.

16.7 Technical cooperation activities will be carried out in accordance with the ECE Technical Cooperation Strategy, which was endorsed at the fifty-ninth session of the Commission in 2004. Activities will be streamlined and focused on south-east Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), in particular Central Asia and the Caucasus. A unifying strategy to identify the needs of these countries and to determine activities responding thereto will be carried out with the objectives of: (a) improving national capacities to implement legally binding instruments and other regional standards, including those developed by ECE; and (b) finding solutions to address transboundary problems.

16.8 The economic and environmental dimensions of security in the region have been given a new impetus through the adoption, in December 2003, of the New Strategy Document of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), in which ECE was identified as a key partner for reviewing the commitments in their economic and environmental dimensions. ECE will, therefore, further integrate the security dimension in its relevant subprogrammes, with a view to contributing to the review and implementation of those commitments that correspond to its areas of expertise as agreed in the memorandum of understanding with OSCE and in the work plan set up between the two organizations.

Subprogramme 1
Environment

Objective of the Organization: To improve environmental management, reduce the overall pollution burden throughout the region and strengthen the environmental pillar of sustainable development.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Further mainstreaming of environmental concerns into policy formulation by Governments and implementation through the "Environment for Europe" process and other sustainable development activities	(a) Percentage of implemented decisions/ commitments by ECE Member States that relate to the integration of environmental concerns into policy formulation
(b) Increased adherence to and further implementation by countries in meeting their obligations under ECE legal instruments for the protection of the environment	(b) (i) Number of ratifications of ECE environmental conventions and protocols (ii) Number of reports from parties indicating significant progress in implementing key obligations

(c) Improved environmental performance in countries with economies in transition	(c) (i) Number of countries having carried out environmental performance reviews by the end of the biennium (ii) Number of countries that have implemented more than 50 per cent of the recommendations contained in the first environmental performance review, as reflected in the second reviews and in country reports

Strategy

16.9 In line with this objective, the Environment and Human Settlements Division will further promote sustainable development in the ECE region. Work will focus on the implementation of the ECE environmental conventions and their protocols and the conduct of the second round of environmental performance reviews of countries with economies in transition. Furthermore, the subprogramme will contribute to the implementation of the Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation in the ECE region and the outcomes of regional environment and sustainable development conferences, in particular the ministerial conferences "Environment for Europe" (Kiev 2003 and Belgrade 2007).

16.10 In particular, and consistent with the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, actions will be taken to: promote multi-stakeholder participation; supporting processes and partnerships in the region resulting from the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the "Environment for Europe" process and the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development; contribute to the environmental dimension of security; and promote intersectoral programmes and projects, including water and environment, transport and environment, health and environment and education for sustainable development. It will also contribute to the regional submissions related to the priority areas of the 2006-2009 programme cycle of the Commission on Sustainable Development. Special activities for the implementation of the Commission's legally binding instruments will be undertaken, in particular supporting implementation of regional and subregional agreements and action programmes; evaluating and supporting enforcement and compliance with agreements; and providing timely and accurate environmental information.

Subprogramme 2
Transport

Objective of the Organization: To facilitate the international movement of persons and goods by inland transport modes and improve safety, environmental protection, energy efficiency and security in the transport sector to levels that contribute effectively to sustainable development.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Adoption, at the regional and/or global level, of amendments to existing legal instruments and recommendations on road transport, road, rail, inland water and combined transport infrastructure, border crossing, transport of dangerous goods and other transport issues, as well as to vehicle regulations, and development of new legal instruments and new vehicle regulations, including global vehicle regulations	(a) (i) Number of existing legal instruments amended (ii) Number of amendments to existing vehicle regulations and number of new vehicle regulations, including global vehicle regulations, adopted (iii) Number of adopted amendments to the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and to the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals
(b) Increased implementation of the ECE legal instruments and recommendations on transport	(b) (i) Number of new accessions of Member States to ECE legal instruments on transport (ii) Number of international and national legal instruments amended to reflect the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and other ECE legal instruments of transport
(c) Further development of transport infrastructure conducive to strengthening economic cooperation within the region, in particular between the enlarged European Union and the non-acceding countries, taking into consideration the imperative of sustainable development	(c) Number of kilometres of new and improved road and rail transport infrastructures along main transport links in non-acceding countries

Strategy

16.11 In order to achieve the above objective, the Transport Division will update and improve the existing set of ECE legal instruments and recommendations governing inland transport in the region by incorporating new technological developments, political and economic changes as well as measures aimed at reducing further the number of transport accidents and the impacts of transport on the environment. The Division will also incorporate adequate measures to address new security threats in, or related to, the transport sector. It will extend the globalization of some of its legal instruments on transport, particularly in the areas of vehicle construction, transit, transport of dangerous goods and road safety. This

will be achieved through consensus and agreement reached at the intergovernmental meetings of the Inland Transport Committee and its Bureau, on the basis of relevant substantive documentation and provision of efficient meetings services by the Transport Division. Dissemination of the outcome of meetings, performance of the legal and administrative functions related to international legal instruments and promotion of the implementation of these instruments and recommendations, including through advisory services, are also an integral part of the strategy. The Transport Division provides assistance in planning and developing road and rail transport infrastructures. The needs of the beneficiaries are also met through the participation of other United Nations agencies, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) representing transport operators, other relevant industries, transport users and consumers in the above-mentioned meetings.

16.12 This strategy also applies to the Economic and Social Council's Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals and its subsidiary bodies, to which the Transport Division also provides a secretariat.

Subprogramme 3
Statistics

Objective of the Organization: To improve the reliability of national official statistics and ensure their comparability at the international level.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Further developed national institutional frameworks and corresponding implementation practices of member countries, in line with the ECE Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics	(a) (i) Number of countries ensuring better compliance with the Fundamental Principles through revisions of their national statistical legislations (ii) Number of ECE recommendations implemented to improve national institutional frameworks for official statistics
(b) Increased implementation of internationally recommended standards and practices to ensure comparable statistics, particularly by the less advanced countries in the region	(b) (i) Number of new or revised statistical standards endorsed by a statistical authority to which the ECE has contributed in substance (ii) Number of countries in CIS and south-east Europe having implemented essential internationally recommended standards and practices in macroeconomic, social and demographic statistics

(c) Streamlined activity patterns of statistical work between international organizations through elimination of overlaps and gaps	(c) (i) Percentage of joint activities in the ECE statistical programme undertaken in cooperation with OECD, the Statistical Office of the European Communities (Eurostat) and other international organizations (ii) Number of international organizations regularly reporting their activities in the Integrated Presentation of International Statistical Work programmes
(d) Increased access by users to reliable, timely and comparable macroeconomic, social and demographic statistics	(d) Percentage of users that express satisfaction with the quality, coverage and timeliness of data delivered

Strategy

16.13 The Statistics Division will review existing institutional frameworks (statistical laws) and major practices in member countries and positively influence eventual revisions. It will use recommendations made through technical cooperation activities such as bilateral advice to countries and multilateral workshops and seminars to accomplish this objective.

16.14 The subprogramme will continue to improve the comparability of official statistics in the ECE region. This will be achieved through reviewing and updating, jointly with other international organizations, the existing statistical standards and developing new ones, when necessary. As an integral part of its strategy, statistical assistance will be provided to the less developed countries of the region so that they can produce essential macroeconomic, social and demographic statistics, including the indicators for achieving the goals contained in the Millennium Declaration. Furthermore, through the mechanisms established by the Conference of European Statistics, the emerging needs of official statistics will be addressed collectively by all international organizations active in the region. For this to be achieved it is essential that the coordination role of the Conference of European Statistics vis-à-vis the statistical activities of international organizations, including the Statistical Office of European Communities (Eurostat), OECD, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Statistics Division of the Secretariat and CIS, be kept and further strengthened. ECE will, therefore, continue to compile updated information on the statistical activities of the various international organizations and make it publicly available.

16.15 The ECE strategy in statistics also applies to the production and dissemination of internationally comparable statistical data on the ECE region, with the aim of contributing to the public debate and decision-making process at the national and international level. Cooperation with other international organizations in collecting and sharing essential statistical data from national statistical offices and making efficient use of modern technologies for collection, processing and dissemination of statistics is a key part of this strategy.

Subprogramme 4
Economic analysis

Objective of the Organization. To enhance policy-making on major economic and development problems faced by countries of the ECE region and contribute to achieving the internationally agreed development goals of the United Nations.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Increased understanding of economic developments and policies in the ECE region, including in the areas relating to the internationally agreed development goals of the United Nations	(a) (i) Percentage of users of the Economic Survey indicating usefulness and relevance of the policy recommendations to policy makers related to major economic developments (ii) Increase in the number of downloads from the ECE web site of ECE economic analyses addressing policy issues
(b) Enhanced policy debates on economic and development issues, including those relating to core United Nations themes (such as the goals contained in the Millennium Declaration, financing for development, sustainable development, ageing, and gender equality)	(b) Percentage of participants who express satisfaction with policy debates organized by Economic Analysis Division

Strategy

16.16 The substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Economic Analysis Division.

16.17 The subprogramme will first seek to provide an international and regional perspective for national economic policy makers and, when appropriate, facilitate policy dialogue. The *Economic Survey of Europe* will be used as a medium for producing analysis of economic issues, policies and problems in the ECE region, especially as they relate to core United Nations themes in the field of development. The *Survey* will continue to place special emphasis on the less advanced economies, with a view to helping them catch up with other countries of the region and the rest of the world. It is intended to strengthen the focus on structural change and institutional problems both in the *Survey* and at the ECE spring seminar.

16.18 Secondly, the subprogramme will coordinate and contribute to the work as agreed in the memorandum of understanding with OSCE and the established work plan.

16.19 Through the spring seminar and other meetings, ECE will provide a forum for policy debates on major and topical economic issues among senior economists from the government, academic and business sectors and from other international organizations. The population-related activities will be carried out in close collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), other international organizations and national institutions. Using reliable data from national and international sources, including population censuses and household/ family surveys, the subprogramme will conduct analyses, research and exchange of experiences

relating to areas approved by the Commission for regional follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women, the second World Assembly on Ageing and the ECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing, held in Berlin.

Subprogramme 5
Sustainable energy

Objective of the Organization: To facilitate (a) the transition to a more sustainable development path for the production and use of energy; and (b) the fuller integration of the energy economies and energy infrastructure of countries in the region.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Progress in the international dialogue between Governments and industry on sustainable energy development issues, in particular environmental improvement, and in the formation of an energy efficiency market in countries with economies in transition	(a) (i) Percentage of participants in policy discussions who evaluate them as being useful for decision-making
	(ii) Number of respondents that reply positively to the web-based evaluation survey on the use of ECE technical studies on sustainable energy and energy efficiency
	(iii) Increased number of energy efficiency investment projects for countries with economies in transition approved for financing
(b) Further extension and implementation of ECE recommendations/guidelines and instruments for sustainable energy development	(b) (i) Number of countries extending the application of United Nations Framework Classification for Energy Reserves/ Resources (UNFC) to oil, gas and uranium
	(ii) Number of mineral, energy and banking institutions and associations accepting and using the UNFC
(c) Progress in implementation of projects in support of sustainable energy development in coal, natural gas, electricity and energy efficiency	(c) (i) Number of prefeasibility study business plans for clean coal technology investment projects prepared under the United Nations Development Account project in Central Asia
	(ii) Tons of diesel fuel replaced by natural gas in commercial vehicles on the Blue Corridor Project road transport itinerary across Europe

Strategy

16.20 The responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Industrial Restructuring, Energy and Enterprise Development Division. In the framework of the global initiatives towards sustainable development, this subprogramme is designed to promote a sustainable energy development strategy for the ECE region. In particular, it is to assist Member States in maintaining access to high quality energy services for all individuals in the ECE region, promote the security of energy supplies in the short, medium and long term, facilitate the transition to a more sustainable energy future and promote the fuller integration of the energy economies and energy infrastructures of countries in the ECE region. ECE will promote well-balanced energy network systems throughout the region tailored to optimize operating efficiencies and overall regional cooperation and sustained improvements in energy efficiency, production and use, particularly in countries with economies in transition. The subprogramme will support projects, especially on gas infrastructure and transportation networks, with particular attention to the Caucasus, Central Asia, the Balkans and Southern Europe. In the context of post-enlargement European Union, the subprogramme is to assist Member States with the integration of their energy economies through the compatibility of legal, regulatory and policy measures, including business practices and the development of classification systems and guidelines, and to conduct studies on natural gas markets. The subprogramme takes into account the goals of the United Nations Millennium Declaration, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the proposals emanating from the process on strengthening the Organization initiated by the Secretary-General in 2002.

16.21 In order to meet the objectives, ECE will work through its intergovernmental bodies, with the active participation of government officials and representatives of the energy industries, the financial community, relevant international organizations and NGOs. It will coordinate its activities with other international organizations such as the International Energy Agency and the Energy Charter, with a view to ensuring efficient and effective use of resources and avoiding duplication. The present structure of intergovernmental dialogue through a committee, expert groups and technical assistance projects will be reinforced by additional extrabudgetary resources which the ECE sustainable energy activities usually attract. The international cooperation pursued by ECE bodies will have its greatest impact in this field by focusing on the key issues that strengthen national policies by providing a coherent regional context for managing inherently international problems. While activities begin with policy dialogue, the subprogramme also provides the opportunity for policy recommendations to be implemented through international norms, standards, training programmes, technical assistance and the preparation of investment projects.

Subprogramme 6
Trade development

Objective of the Organization: To facilitate trade and economic cooperation among countries of the ECE region and with the rest of the world.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Adoption by Member States of new/revised trade facilitation recommendations, norms, standards, guidelines and tools, including for agricultural produce	(a) (i) The number of new and/or updated ECE recommendations, norms, standards, guidelines and tools for trade facilitation and electronic business agreed upon by Member States (ii) The number of agreed new or revised international standards and recommendations on agricultural produce
(b) Increased implementation of trade facilitation recommendations, norms, standards, guidelines and tools, including for agricultural produce	(b) (i) Increase in the number of recommendations, norms, standards, guidelines and tools implemented by Member States (ii) Number of downloads of key recommendations, norms, standards, guidelines and tools from the ECE Internet site, as a proxy for their use (iii) The cumulative total number of implementations of ECE agricultural quality standards in Member States (total number of standards multiplied by total number of countries implementing them)
(c) Enhanced policy dialogue on trade practices and regulatory framework	(c) Percentage of participants in policy discussions who evaluate them as being useful for decision-making

Strategy

16.22 The responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Trade Development and Timber Division. The strategy will promote five key work areas. First, developing and maintaining international trade facilitation instruments in response to the needs of international business, especially to support international supply chains and the integration of countries into the global economy, and to provide a platform for discussion among all actors (Governments, business and other organizations) in this regard. This will entail maintaining electronic data interchange standards (United Nations Directories for Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport (UN/EDIFACT)), extending the work of the Organization on electronic codes and developing new e-business standards. Second, the strategy will focus on reducing barriers to trade in goods and services, especially non-tariff barriers, through greater implementation of ECE norms,

standards and recommendations in trade facilitation, international harmonization and standardization and regulatory compatibility. Third, efforts will be made to facilitate trade policy development, especially in the context of the implications of the enlargement of the European Union, the new challenges stemming from trade and security and measures to promote sustainable trade. Fourth, the strategy will seek to add value to ECE's well-established work in agricultural quality standards and to encourage the participation of more countries throughout the ECE region in the standards-making process. Fifth, the ECE will encourage implementation of the trade-related norms and standards, in particular for the benefit of countries with economies in transition. Overall, efforts will be made to support the mainstreaming of information and communication technologies and gender issues into all aspects of the subprogramme.

Subprogramme 7
Timber

Objective of the Organization: To improve sustainable forest management, including the sound, legal use of wood, other forest products and services throughout the ECE region.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Increased understanding of sustainable forest management, notably the policies necessary to achieve it, based on increased ability to measure sustainable forest management at the national and regional levels	(a) (i) Percentage of ECE countries with national forest programmes or similar holistic forest sector policy frameworks (ii) Percentage of ECE countries able to provide satisfactory data on indicators of sustainable forest management to the fifth Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe
(b) Increased understanding of the sound use of wood, leading to policies to promote it and increased ability to monitor it	(b) (i) Percentage of ECE countries with policies in place on sound use of wood, whether as part of national forest programmes or not (ii) Percentage of ECE countries able to provide satisfactory responses to the ECE/Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations/International Tropical Timber Organization/Eurostat joint forest sector questionnaire
(c) Increased capacity of countries in CIS and south-east Europe to achieve sustainable forest management at the national level, notably through developing appropriate policy measures	(c) Increased number of CIS and south-east European countries adopting national forest programmes

Strategy

16.23 The responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Trade Development and Timber Division. To support forest management, including the use of wood and forest products, which is sustainable from the ecological, economic and social point of view, it is necessary to maintain a good balance between these three aspects, based on a strong consensus about goals and methods among all stakeholders, as well as to ensure that the strategy is well integrated into the policy framework of other sectors (the cross-sectoral approach). Achieving sustainable forest management is primarily a sovereign national responsibility. However, regional international cooperation, through the timber subprogramme and its partners, will contribute by developing and disseminating concepts and information, sharing experience and defining standard measurement tools (indicators). The main contribution of the subprogramme is through developing and applying analytical and monitoring tools, both on policy and on developments on the ground, collecting, validating and disseminating information and analysis, as well as stimulating the exchange of experience and joint efforts to measure progress. While all countries benefit from international cooperation, the subprogramme recognizes a special need of the countries of CIS and south-east Europe, where forest sector problems tend to be more acute and national capacity weaker.

Subprogramme 8
Human settlements

Objective of the Organization: To improve the human settlements situation in the ECE region, taking into account the needs of socially vulnerable population groups and the gender perspective in sustainable urban development.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Improved housing sector policies through implementation of recommendations, taking into account the concerns of vulnerable population groups	(a) (i) Number of countries which have expressed willingness to engage in an assessment of their housing situation through the country profile programme (ii) Percentage of recommendations that have been implemented in key areas by the countries that have taken part in land administration reviews, as reported to the Committee on Human Settlements
(b) Further development and reforms in land administration	(b) (i) Number of countries that have expressed willingness to engage in an assessment of their land administration systems through land administration reviews (ii) Percentage of recommendations that have been implemented by the reviewed countries, as reported to the Committee on Human Settlements

(c) Improved policy formulation for urban planning	(c) Number of countries that have taken action to implement the guidelines on urban planning, as reported to the Committee on Human Settlements

Strategy

16.24 The responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Environment and Human Settlements Division. The activities of the subprogramme will promote the implementation of the ECE Strategy for Sustainable Quality of Life in Human Settlements in the 21st Century and will address the goals contained in the Millennium Declaration (eradication of extreme poverty, promotion of gender equality, ensuring of environmental sustainability) as well as the regional priorities for human settlements as decided upon at the first Regional Implementation Forum on Sustainable Development, held as follow-up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development. In line with these directions, the activities of the subprogramme will promote socially, economically and environmentally sound human settlements policies. Through capacity-building measures, the dissemination of good practices and the provision of expert assistance to countries, the subprogramme will contribute to improving housing and urban planning policies and moving those policies in a more sustainable direction, particularly through upgrading land and real estate systems, promoting social housing for vulnerable population groups, including incorporation of the gender perspective, and improving urban land use for, inter alia, sustainable transport and energy consumption.

Subprogramme 9
Industrial restructuring and enterprise development

Objective of the Organization: To foster industrial restructuring and the development of effective and competitive enterprises, particularly in countries with economies in transition.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced policy dialogue on industrial restructuring and modernization, including promotion of innovative small and medium-sized enterprises and the development of knowledge-based economies based on national e-assessment reports identifying gaps and corresponding policy recommendations	(a) (i) Percentage of policy recommendations resulting from national e-assessment reports that have been implemented by the countries reviewed (ii) Number of business incubators generated by ECE activities related to industrial development
(b) Enhanced policies and practices for investment promotion	(b) (i) Percentage of policy recommendations implemented in countries with economies in transition in the areas of investment promotion that are addressed by ECE activities (ii) Number of initiatives/actions aimed at promoting investment undertaken by countries and generated by ECE activities in these areas

Strategy

16.25 The responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Industrial Restructuring, Energy and Enterprise Development Division. In order to meet the above objective, the Division intends to operate within and strengthen the already established network of officials responsible for enterprise restructuring and development within ministries of economy, trade, industry and finance and the major financial and non-financial public and private corporations. In particular, through enhancing policy dialogue and exchange of experiences among policy makers, experts and private sector representatives, ECE will assist Member States, upon request, in dealing with key challenges such as: the promotion of domestic and foreign investment; the creation of an environment conducive to transforming the old industries into new ones that are products of the newly emerging knowledge-based economy; the promotion of institutions facilitating new business undertakings, including business incubators, that support innovative small and medium-sized enterprises; and the strengthening of the regulatory and institutional framework for enterprise development as one important aspect of the economic dimension of security. In this way, the most pressing and relevant industrial restructuring and modernization issues will be properly addressed in intergovernmental cooperation and debate. At the same time, this course of action will foster the development and implementation of concerned national policies. Where appropriate and necessary, training and education of policy makers in implementing business development strategies and creating modern institutions for promoting entrepreneurship will also be undertaken.

Notes

[i] At its annual session in February 2004, the Economic Commission for Europe decided to commission a comprehensive report on the state of the Commission with the aim of avoiding duplication and ensuring cooperation, complementarity and efficiencies among intergovernmental organizations. The report will be submitted to the next annual session of the Commission in February 2005.

Legislative mandates

General Assembly resolutions

55/2	United Nations Millennium Declaration
57/144	Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit
57/247	Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy
57/253	World Summit on Sustainable Development
57/270	Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields
57/274	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence
58/148	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly
58/218	Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development
58/230	Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2001/21	Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits
2002/34	International Conference on Financing for Development
2003/49	Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

Economic and Social Council decision

1997/224	Declaration on the Strengthening of Economic Cooperation in Europe and Plan of Action

Economic Commission for Europe decisions

B (50)	Diversification of forms and methods of the Commission's activities designed to assist countries of the region in transition to a market economy and their integration with the European and global economy
A (52)	Endorsement of the Declaration on the Strengthening of Economic Cooperation in Europe and the Plan of Action

Subprogramme 1
Environment

General Assembly resolution

58/217	International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015

Economic and Social Council resolution

2003/61	Future programme, organization and methods of work of the Commission on Sustainable Development

Economic Commission for Europe decisions

E (44)	Charter on groundwater management
J (44)	Air pollution
I (45)	Cooperation in the field of environmental protection and water resources and in the field of long-range transboundary air pollution
G (50)	Cooperation in the field of environment and sustainable development
ECE/AC.21/2001/3, annex	Decisions and recommendations adopted by the High-level Meeting on Transport, Environment and Health, endorsed by ECE at its fifty-sixth session (E/2001/37, para. 46)

Subprogramme 2
Transport

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1999/65	Reconfiguration of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods into a Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals
2003/52	Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar
2003/64	Work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

Economic Commission for Europe decision

ECE/AC.21/2001/3, annex	Decisions and recommendations adopted by the High-level Meeting on Transport, Environment and Health, endorsed by ECE at its fifty-sixth session (E/2001/37, para. 46)

Subprogramme 3
Statistics

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1989/3	International economic classifications
1993/5	1993 System of National Accounts

Economic Commission for Europe decision

C (47)	The Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics in the Region of the Economic Commission for Europe

Subprogramme 4
Economic analysis

General Assembly resolutions

50/124	Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development
50/203	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action
S-21/2	Key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development
53/179	Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy
55/162	Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit
56/228	Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing
57/167	Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing

Economic Commission for Europe decisions

B (46)	Cooperation in the field of economic analysis and assistance to countries in transition
A (50)	The work of the Commission and its future activities

Subprogramme 5
Sustainable energy

General Assembly resolutions

48/165	Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership
48/190	Dissemination of the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development

49/111 Report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its second session

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1991/86 Development and efficient use of energy resources

2003/61 Future programme, organization and methods of work of the Commission on Sustainable Development

Economic and Social Council decision

1997/226 United Nations International Framework Classification for Energy Reserves/Resources: Solid Fuels and Mineral Commodities

Economic Commission for Europe decision

I (50) Cooperation in the field of energy

Subprogramme 6
Trade development

General Assembly resolutions

55/182 International trade and development

55/191 Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy

Economic and Social Council resolution

1991/76 Promotion of interregional cooperation in the area of international trade facilitation

Economic and Social Council decision

1997/225 Economic Commission for Europe Recommendation 25, entitled "Use of the UN/EDIFACT Standard"

Economic Commission for Europe decision

C (49) Promoting the expansion of trade for products from the countries in transition in international markets

Subprogramme 7
Timber

General Assembly resolution

54/218 Implementation of and follow-up to the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly

Subprogramme 8
Human settlements

General Assembly resolutions

51/177 Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

56/205 Special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

ECE Committee on Human Settlements

Ministerial Declaration "Towards a sustainable improvement in living conditions in the ECE region in the 21st century" (ECE/HBP/119/Add.1)

"ECE Strategy for Sustainable Quality of Life in Human Settlements in the 21st Century" (ECE/HBP/119/Add.1 and HBP/1999/4/Rev.1)

Subprogramme 9
Industrial restructuring and enterprise development

General Assembly resolutions

50/95 International trade and development

55/187 Industrial development cooperation

55/191 Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy

57/274 Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

Economic and Social Council

Ministerial Declaration on development and international cooperation in the twenty-first century: the role of information technology in the context of a knowledge-based global economy (E/2000/L.9), adopted on 7 July 2000 at the high-level segment of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council of 2000